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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Lagging Rural Home Electrification Program/Completed
Electrical Repair Projects in the Opole Area

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1. "There has been little progress lately [prior to June 1953] in the much publicized Polish rural home electrification program - at least in Silesia. Construction materials are difficult to obtain, and private citizens have to pay exorbitant prices for electrical installations.
2. "Wooden electric light poles for civilian purposes are literally unobtainable. Copper wire is only obtained under special allocation through established supply offices.
3. "Installation of electricity in private houses or farms costs 2,000 to 2,500 zlotys for five outlets per house. State-bank credits for such installations are not granted to individual farmers. They must be paid for in cash.
4. "In addition, following are typical prices for electrical parts and equipment:

One wall-socket, bakelite	2.70 zlotys
One switch, bakelite	5.40 zlotys
One 100 KW bulb	8. zlotys
One 3-arm ceiling-lamp, of better performance, approx.	300. zlotys
2 KW electrical motors	800. to 1,000 zl.
5. "In 1950 the installation of electric light was much easier and much less costly because there existed a number of small private electrical shops which charged lower prices than the state-controlled enterprises. Back in 1947 the small village of Ameryka near Opole, was already under electrification. (Four localities with this name existed in the western Polish territories. Two of them are still in existence. The third and fourth, one in Prussia and the other in Silesia, were re-named Dybowko and Rzepiska. The local CP officials near Opole are considering a name change also, because Ameryka sounds too capitalistic.)

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25X1 - 2 -

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6. "After the state monopolized the electrical trade nearly all small private firms were killed. Very seldom does one find a private workshop in the larger towns. I know of a private workshop in Dobrzyn Maly north of Opole (German: Gross-Doebern bei Oppeln). The workshop has under its maintenance all industrial enterprises in the town, including a new barge repairyard, where approximately 120 workers are employed, as compared with only 20 before World War II. Another factory in the town has a work force of 200 and produces silk stockings. The main job of the workshop in the last few years has been the maintenance and repair of the local high-tension nets (voltage 10,000) attached to the 100,000 voltage high-tension net traversing the country. The huge transformers are located for the district in Wroblin (Frauendorf), a northern suburb of Opole. The main distribution lines:

- a. South, to Groszowice (Groschowitz), a cement-center.
- b. West to Niemodlin (Falkenburg).
- c. Northwest to Karlowice (Karlsmarkt).
- d. North to Pokoje (Karlsruhe)
- e. Northeast to Oswiec Slasky (Koenigshuld).

All the above lines were damaged or partly dismantled during and after World War II. They have been repaired and restored to operation. Another major project of this private workshop has been the repair of the hydroelectric plant near the Turawa lake. The entire electrical installation was either damaged or requisitioned by the Soviet Army after World War II. The workshop received orders to repair the turbines and to replace the full equipment for the pumping installations that were located near the village of Szczedrzyk (German: Hitlersee) on the eastern side of the lake. This plant is again in full operation."

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